

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
INDIVIDUAL SURVEY FORM
(KHC 91-1)

COUNTY Lewis
RESOURCE # Lw 51
RELATED GROUP #
INTENSIVE DOC.
EVALUATION D
DESTROYED

For instructions, see the Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Manual.

1. NAME OF RESOURCE (how determined): R /

Ohio River Lock and Dam No. 32

2. ADDRESS/LOCATION:

Ohio River Mile 382.6, off SR 8

3. UTM REFERENCE:

Quad. Name: Buena Vista

Date: 1984 Zone: 16

Easting: 2 / 9 / 4 / 3 / 0 / 5

Northing: 4 / 2 / 8 / 0 / 5 / 2 / 6

Accuracy: A /

4. OWNER/ADDRESS:

Lewis County Board of Education, Vanceburg, KY

5. FIELD RECORDER/AFFILIATION:

Hampton/Mickelson, Hardlines Design Company

6. DATE RECORDED:

August 1999

7. SPONSOR:

USACE Pittsburgh District

8. INITIATION: 3 /

9. OTHER DOCUMENTATION/RECOGNITION:

 Survey

 HABS/HAER

 KY Land

 Local Land

 NR

 R&C

 NHL

Other:

10. ORIGINAL PRIMARY FUNCTION: 0 / 4 / 1 /

Public Works

11. CURRENT PRIMARY FUNCTION: 0 / 5 / F /

Education - School Equipment Storage

12. CONSTRUCTION DATE: 4 / estimated

1 / 9 / 2 / 6 / documented

13. DATE OF MAJOR MODIFICATIONS:

1 / 1970

 /

14. CONSTRUCTION METHOD/MATERIAL:

B / O / Brick original

 / / subsequent

15. DIMENSIONS:

Height 1 st. Width 22' Depth 40'

16. PLAN:

 / / N/A first

 / / second

 / / third

17. STYLISTIC INFLUENCE:

5 / TOC ; 5 / Mission first

6 / 20th-c. Am. ; 5 / Craftsman second

 / ; / third

18. STYLE DEVELOPMENT:

A / first / second / third

19. FOUNDATION:

TYPE

2 / Contn. MATERIAL

 / / original

 / / replacement

20. PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL:

E / Brick, common bond original

 / / replacement

21. ROOF CONFIGURATION/COVERING:

CONFIGURATION

COVERING

1 / Hip 4 / Tile original

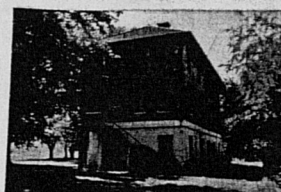
 / / replacement

22. CONDITION: P /

23. MODIFICATION: 1 /

24. NEGATIVE FILE #: 99 / 21 / 1-18

Write resource # on back of all prints.



COMMENTS/HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

This resource is the former site of a lock and dam complex. The remaining resources include one wood-frame brick lockkeeper dwelling of one and one-half stories, one brick two-story lockkeeper dwelling, four two-story wood-frame lockkeeper dwellings, a brick power house, a shed, and a garage. The power house has a concrete foundation, red brick walls, and a red Spanish tile overhanging hip roof. It has a concrete raised foundation and two full stories. All sides of the power house have metal industrial windows. The north (front) elevation contains the main pedestrian entrance to the building, while the rear elevation has a large cargo door (continued)

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KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
CONTINUATION SHEET
(KHC 91-4)

DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

on the main floor. The building has five bays on the north and south elevations and two bays on the east and west elevations. The building retains its original metal industrial windows, wood doors, wood trim, and tile roof, but is in a deteriorated condition. The dwellings are located on a grassy plateau that overlooks the river. House no. 1 is a brick hip-roofed structure with one main floor and a small amount of usable space under the roof. The building features a wood-frame porch on its main (north) elevation. The side elevations have a series of windows, while the rear (south) elevation has a hip-roofed mudroom/porch combination. The building has its original wood trim, but the original roof covering has been replaced by asphalt shingles. The house also retains its original wood windows, although most of them have been boarded up. The house is in generally poor condition. House no. 2 has a side-gabled asbestos-shingle roof, a concrete foundation, and orange-red brick walls. A shed-roofed porch and a shed-roofed wall dormer characterize the primary (north) elevation. A series of windows articulates the side elevations, while a shed-roofed mudroom/porch combination and a series of windows articulate the rear (south) elevation. Each side elevation also features two brick chimneys. The house has its original wood double-hung three-over-one windows, wood trim, and asbestos-shingle roof, but is in an extremely deteriorated condition. House nos. 3 through 6 are identical, with concrete foundations, wood-frame walls clad with wood siding, and side-gabled asphalt roofs. A wood shed-roofed porch with thick square columns dominates the primary (north) elevation of each of these houses. Each house also features a mudroom/porch combination on the south elevation. Each house has retained its original wood trim, siding, and wood double-hung three-over-one windows, but all four are in a deteriorated condition. The site also contains a one-story wood-frame vehicle garage and a one-story gable-roofed corrugated metal shop building.

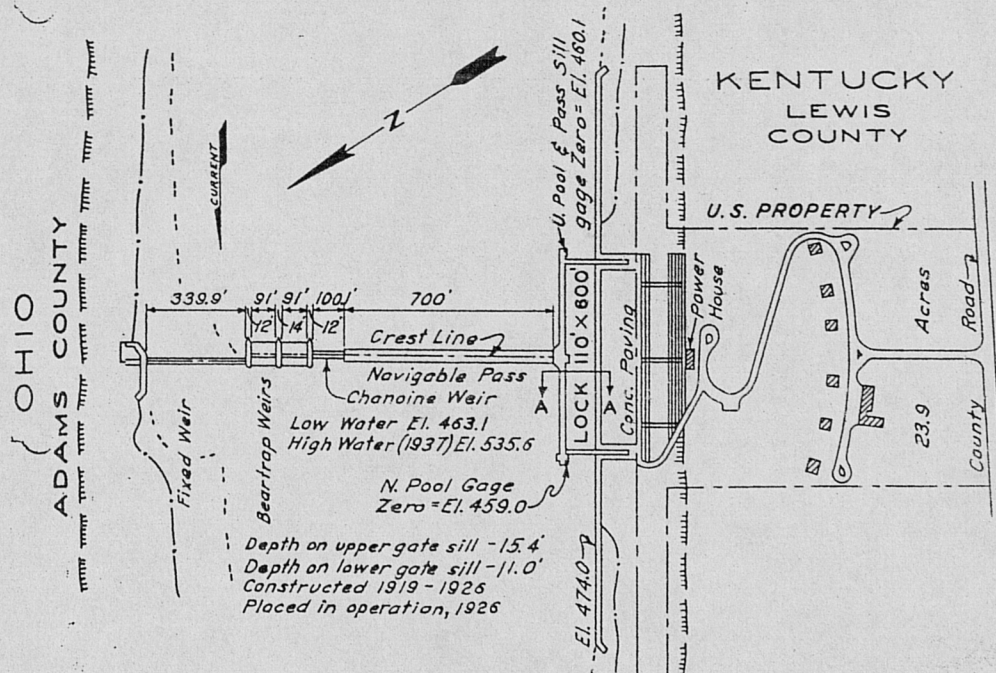
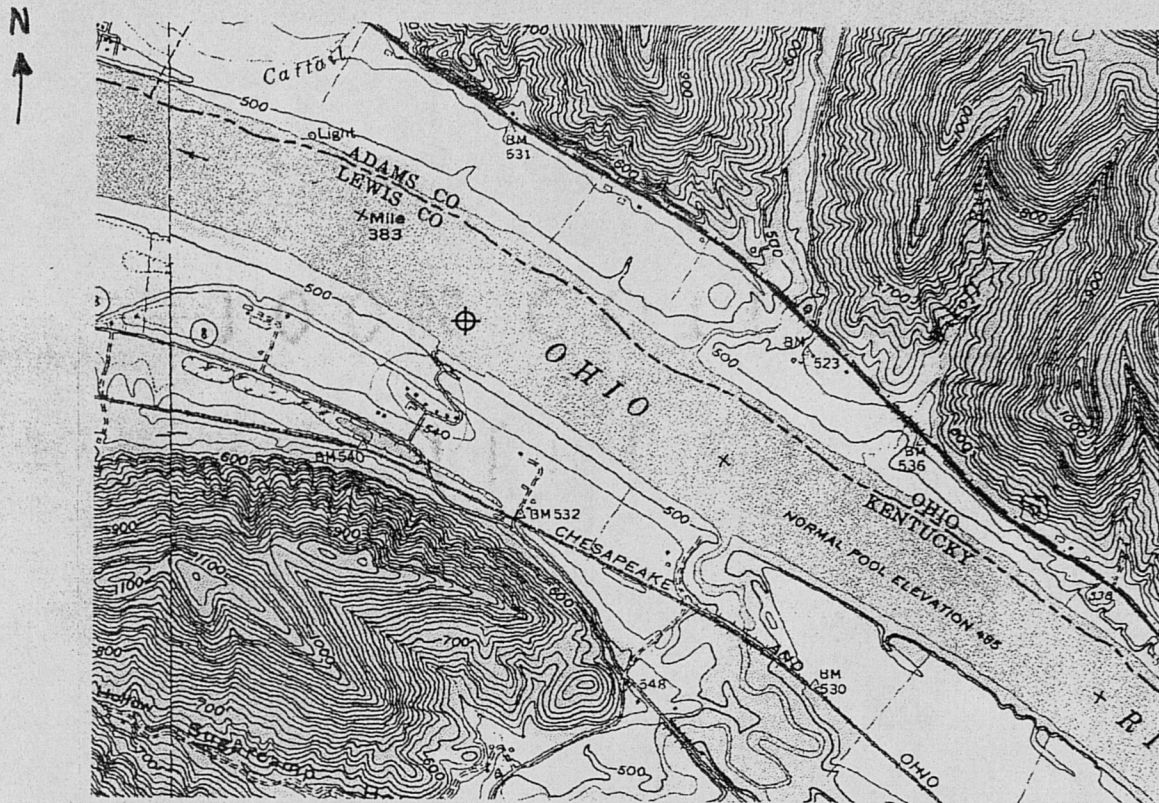
HISTORY

A program to provide a slackwater navigation pool along the entire length of the Ohio River was contemplated as early as the 1870s. The first structure built as part of this system was the Davis Island Dam (Ohio River Lock and Dam 1), completed in 1885. From Pittsburgh, the lock and dam system was extended downriver by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. By 1929, a 9-foot navigation pool had been established on the entire length of the Ohio with the completion of Lock and Dam 53 at Grand Chain, Illinois, near the mouth of the Mississippi. Lock and Dam 32 was part of this slackwater navigation system for the Ohio River. The facility was built in 1919-1926. The dam was a concrete structure with a 339.9' concrete fixed-crest weir on the Ohio shore. Next to the fixed weir sat two 91'-wide beartrap weirs and a 100' Chanoine weir. Next to the Chanoine weir was a 700' navigable pass with Chanoine wickets, wood structures that could be raised on metal pins to a vertical position in low water. In high water, the wickets could be lowered to the river bottom to allow boats to travel over them. The facility was rounded out by a 110' x 600' concrete lock with two steel rolling gates that retracted into concrete chambers located on shore.

The Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operated the lock until increased river traffic led to demands for new dams that could better control the Ohio's navigation pool with larger locks. Work was completed in 1962 on Meldahl Dam, a concrete high-lift gated dam that replaced Ohio River Locks and Dams 31, 32, 33, and 34. Lock and Dam 32 was destroyed soon thereafter, and the land and lock buildings were declared excess property and deeded to the Lewis County School Board. They are currently used to store surplus school equipment. The dwellings and power house are severely under-maintained, and a school board employee at the site indicated that the school board has plans to demolish the dwellings. The buildings at the site are deteriorated, but they have a very high level of exterior integrity, and because of their association with the historic Ohio River Navigation System, they are undoubtedly eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

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LEGEND

Normal Pool
 Top of bank
 9 ft. depth contour
 382.6 Mi. below Pittsburgh, Pa.

PLAN